United Nations A/HRC/31/8/Add.1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 March 2016

Original: English

Human Rights Council
Thirty-first session
Agenda item 6
Universal Periodic Review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Rwanda

Addendum

Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review

* The present document was not edited before being sent to the United Nations translation services.

GE.16-03885(E)

Please recycle

1. This Addendum represents the official response of the Republic of Rwanda to the 83 distinct thematically clustered recommendations from the 229 generated by the UN member States on its UPR Report (A/HRC/31/8) during its review on 4 November 2015. This response reflects our continuing efforts to promote, protect, and respect human rights for all.

2. This addendum outlines the recommendations which are acceptable for implementation, recommendations which are not acceptable and the accompanying rationale and the recommendations which Rwanda totally rejects. The 50 accepted recommendations will form the basis for the development of a national road map for implementation the outcome of which will be reported on at the next Universal Periodic Review.

3. In conformity with its Constitution, National Laws as well as International Obligations already undertaken, Rwanda accepted only the recommendations for which implementation is possible within the next four years.

4. Rwanda supports the UPR process and is pleased to undertake its second Universal Periodic Review. The UPR presents a good opportunity for self-examination in order to continuously improve the quality of life enjoyed by the Rwandan people.

5. The methodology and format followed in this Addendum follows that of the working group report i.e. those recommendations that enjoy the support of Rwanda; those that are considered implemented or in the process of being implemented; and those that do not enjoy the support of Rwanda and thus noted.

6. Recommendations that enjoy the support of Rwanda in full are those where we support both the spirit or principle behind the recommendation and are able to implement it in practice.

7. Rwanda also supports recommendations to take actions we are already taking or have taken, and intend to continue taking, without in any way implying that our ongoing or prior efforts have been insufficient or that these actions are necessarily legally required.

8. Recommendations that do not enjoy the support of Rwanda are generally those where we are not able to commit to implementation at this stage, whether or not we agree with the principles behind the recommendation, or where we have recently reviewed our position on the issue in question; or where we reject the assertions being made.

The following recommendations enjoy the support of Rwanda

9. Recommendations 133.1 to 133.50 enjoy the support of Rwanda because they are in line with the current legal and policy framework and are achievable within this UPR cycle. These recommendations have therefore been accepted for implementation and will form the basis of Rwanda's National UPR Implementation Plan.

The following recommendations enjoy the support of Rwanda which Rwanda considers to be implemented or in the process of being implemented

10. Recommendations 134.1 to 134.16: We support recommendations urging ratifications treaties and understand them as not intended to prejudice appropriate review and consideration in accordance with Rwanda's constitutional procedures. These recommendations will therefore be reviewed and deliberated upon by relevant stakeholders in line with constitutional and other procedures. Those recommendations for which that process has commenced and has not conclusively ended, will continue to be considered until concluded. The ratification of International Instruments can only take place after the consultation and approval of the Parliament of Rwanda.

11. Recommendations 134.17 to 134.31, 134.32, 134.33, 134.35, 134.40, 134.41, 134.43, 134.44, 134.46, 134.47, 134.49, 134.67, 134.68, 134.70 to 134.78, 134.81 to 134.91, 134.93 to 134.95, 134.101 and 134.102 reflect actions that have been or are being taken or are being implemented in Rwanda as part of Government policies and programs.

12. Recommendations 134.34, 134.36 to 134.39, 134.42, 134.45, 134.48, 134.50 to 134.66, 134.69, 134.80, 134.92, and 134.96 to 134.100: Rwanda supports the spirit of these recommendations which aim at committing to comply with our domestic law and international human rights obligations; indeed, those recommendations concern rights for which legal protection and guarantees are already in place and actively implemented. Implememing those recommendations under their proposed form would duplicate existing actions and may require Rwanda to take additional actions which are not anticipated at this time.

13. Recommendations 134.50 and 134.51 enjoy the support of Rwanda in principle however it is not possible to guarantee that the considerable resources necessary for the implementation of those recommendations will be readily available.

The following recommendations did not enjoy the support of Rwanda and were thus noted

14. Recommendations 135.1 to 135.77 did not enjoy the support of Rwanda as they are currently incompatible with our domestic law and constitutional obligations.